



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

divisions of wards, city, county, state and nation. Now, as certain parts of this mechanism reappear in each of these territorial associations the author has been led into frequent repetition which is both confusing and tedious. Furthermore, the lack of clearness is increased by the vast amount of minutiae recorded. The author seems to forget that clearness does not consist in an exhaustive enumeration of parts, but in a minute description of certain well-chosen features.

In addition he attempts to treat in a general way the subject of nominations for local office and to make generalizations which apply to whole sections of country. With our vast extent of territory, diversified industrial conditions and complex social relations it is impossible to make sweeping statements of local political customs, and anyone who reads Chapter II. will be convinced of the futility of such an attempt. In Part III. the defects of the system are discussed. These defects are illustrated by numerous well-selected examples.

Mr. Dallinger shows that the character of our nominees is not the result of the nominating machinery, but of the character of those who manage the system; that it is in unworthy hands "is the natural result of the spoils system aided by lax laws and an inexcusable neglect of the duties of citizenship." The various remedies for these defects are considered in Part IV. These are grouped under the heads: Regulation by party rules; by law, and supervision by citizens' associations.

The author here falls into the error made by so many political scientists of devoting his energies and space to a discussion of words and traditions rather than of living forces. It seems so difficult to escape documentary entanglement. Every student of politics would have been grateful if more had been said of the effective rules and laws. We want to know the effective forces in the preservation of popular government. We desire to know the relation of these rules and laws to their environment.

The appendices contain numerous documents illustrative of the entire nominating system.

J. Q. ADAMS.

University of Pennsylvania.

Industry in England; Historical Outlines. By H. DE B. GIBBINS, M. A. Pp. xx, 479. Price, \$2.50. New York: Imported by Charles Scribner's Sons, 1897.

In the history of no nation does the supreme importance of the rôle played by physical influences stand out more clearly than in

that of England. From the time when the isolated and extreme western position of the island determined the character of its early inhabitants, to our own day, when abundance of coal spells manufacturing supremacy, there has been hardly a stage in the development of that country but has been the obvious result of some peculiarity in its physical environment. This fact makes the task of the economic historian of England at once simple and full of difficulty. It is simple because the chief environmental features of England are so readily perceived, while it is difficult because it is so hard to decide just how much influence in moulding and determining the infinite details of industrial, social and political life is to be ascribed to each one of these features.

"Industry in England" emphasizes rather the difficulty than the simplicity of the task which its author has undertaken in trying to give a condensed account of the economic history of the British Isles. Although the author recognizes clearly in his opening chapter that the "special fitness" of England and of the English people for commerce and manufacturing is a fact of recent discovery, that the English are not an inventive people, but "owe most of (their) progress in the arts and manufactures to foreign influences," and that "the causes of English supremacy and commerce in the nineteenth century . . . with one great exception—the application of steam-power to industry—reside more in the natural advantages of the country than in the natural ingenuity of the people;" yet he seems to lose sight of these considerations in the body of his narrative. Immediately after he has emphasized the importance of objective influences in directing the course of English history, he begins his work not as one might expect, with a description of the physical characteristics of early Britain, but with an account of the early inhabitants. Coming then to the early invasions he is contented with a bare summary of the information contained in the ordinary text-book on English history, and makes no attempt to explain the motives of the invaders or to tell why it was that England gained only advantages from the inroads of foreigners, which were so disastrous to neighboring countries on the continent. As the material becomes more various the author's failure to explain events in their logical order is more conspicuous. Underlying physical causes are almost entirely lost sight of in his description of the manorial system, of the guilds and of later economic institutions, while the mistakes of individuals and of classes and such calamities as the Great Plague are exalted to the rank of historical facts of first-rate importance.

In the arrangement of his work Mr. Gibbins has shown great

discrimination. He has stoically resisted the seductions of the mediæval period, about which most authors find so much to say, because so little is known, and has kept nearly three-fifths of his volume for the treatment of the period beginning with the reign of Henry VII. Especially to be commended is the exhaustive attention which he gives to the events of the second half of the last and the first half of the present century. No author, since Arnold Toynbee, has appreciated so fully the importance of this period or done so much to explain how the "industrial revolution" reacted on the social and political life of the English people. In saying that "the change from the domestic system of industry to the modern system of production by machinery and steam-power was sudden and violent," the author goes, perhaps, too far. Recent investigations seem to show, on the one hand, that the "capitalistic system" had received some development before the era of steam, and on the other that the régime of the factory—taking the country as a whole—extended itself quite slowly. As to the greatness of the change when it was finally effected, however, there cannot be two opinions.

The later chapters of "Industry in England" betray socialistic leanings on the part of the author which will cause many readers to distrust his fitness to treat economic history with impartiality. Such a statement as that on page 470, that "the great mistake of the capitalist class in modern times has been to pay too little wages," has a curiously unhistorical ring about it, and taken in connection with the claim, put forward at the beginning of Chapter XXIII, that the "large capitalists of earlier manufacturing days" owed their accumulations to their own acuteness, coupled with the enforced abstinence of the laboring classes, suggests the question whether the author has made a sufficiently careful study of the elementary motives which served as the mainsprings of "industry" one hundred years ago, as they do at present.

Taken in its entirety, Mr. Gibbins' work is a great improvement upon his earlier "Industrial History of England," which has served him as a model in its preparation. It contains a mass of valuable information, not otherwise easily available, and is abundantly supplied with the exact references so dear to the serious student's heart. Relying largely on secondary sources, and too much perhaps on the writings of Thorold Rogers, the author yet displays no little originality in his interpretation of historical events and is careful to distinguish between fact and opinion.

The cordial reception accorded to his earlier work insures a wide sale for Mr. Gibbins' book, and it is probably better fitted than any

other that has yet been written to serve as a text-book of English economic history.

H R. S.

Histoire financière de l'Assemblée constituante. Par CHARLES GOMEL. Vol. II. 1790-91. Pp. 586. Price, 8 fr. Paris: Guillaumin et Cie.

The volume before us completes M. Gomel's financial history of the revolution down to the dissolution of the Constituent Assembly. Two volumes have been devoted to the reign of Louis XVI. before the gathering of the States-General, and the last two cover the period of that body's activity. It is not too much to say that for the first time a clear and dispassionate account of the financial policy of France during these years has been given to the public. The author appears to think that in following the financial thread he can best show the causes of the successive changes in France and in our opinion he has ample justification for this view, at least until 1791. The Bourbon monarchy was undermined by a reckless disregard of financial laws and the Assembly was at its weakest in questions of receipts and expenditures.

In this volume, as in the preceding ones, little attempt is made to describe factors in the changes which France was experiencing, except as they influenced the financial policy of her rulers, and yet the words used in these occasional descriptions are so excellently chosen that we often obtain a better idea of such other factors than we could have done from a more pretentious historian. Few readers will wish to cut out the author's short description of Mirabeau's life and influence or his analysis of the relations existing between the King and the Assembly.

As regards the more immediate financial questions, M. Gomel compels a clear understanding of existing conditions before he allows the student to discuss the changes introduced. Such explanations often lengthen a work unduly, or make it uninteresting to its readers, but our author avoids these errors much more easily than some others have done. His words do not seem to be interpolations, and we read his descriptions of the "*livre rouge*" for example, feeling that we should have been disappointed had it been omitted.

At the outset the author shows the difficult position of the Assembly resulting from its inability to oppose successfully the will or better the impulses of the people. With the most honorable intentions toward the legal owners of the land throughout France the Assembly was unable to enforce a policy of a gradual commutation